(d) Yes, Sir. The export of Green Coffee (green beans) over the last 3 financial years is as under:

Year	Green Coffee	
	Qty. (in MT)	Value (in Rs. Crores)
2001-02	170078	698.65
2002-03	163889	690.72
2003-04	187921	840.73

(e) Coffee is an export oriented commodity and its prices are largely influenced by the New York and London Exchanges for Arabica and Robusta grade respectively. Coffee prices are determined by the market forces of demand and supply.

India as a global trade hub

1542. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that the Ministry has constituted a 12-member Inter-Ministerial Panel, headed by Commerce Secretary, to look into various aspects as to how to make India a global trade hub;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the proposed global trade hub would be at par with the hubs in UK, Switzerland, Dubai and Hong Kong?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) One of the strategies of the Foreign Trade Policy announced on 31st August, 2004, is to facilitate development of India as a global hub for manufacturing, trading and services. However, no Ministerial Panel headed by the Commerce Secretary has been constituted in this regard. It is nevertheless the constant endeavour of the Government to create an appropriate institutional framework for external trade at par with some of the important countries of the world.

Trade between India and Pakistan

1543. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of formal and informal trade between India and Pakistan during the last three years as per the information available with the Union Government;

(b) whether the volume of informal trade is larger than the formal trade; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to bring the items which are at present traded unofficially into the official tradable list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The quantum of formal trade between India and Pakistan during the last three years is as follows:

(Value : In US $ Million)

Year	Exports to Pakistan	Imports from Pakistan	Total trade	Rate of growth
2000-2001	186.32	64.03	250.35	–
2001-2002	144.01	64.76	208.77	(–)16.6%
2002-2003	206.16	44.85	251.01	20.2%
2003-2004	286.55	57.74	344.29	37.2%
2004-2005 (April-Nov.)	314.54	66.25	380.79	145.8%

SOURCE : DGCI&S, Kolkata

(b) However, there is no compilation of data about the informal trade as carried out for the formal trade. The only method to estimate informal trade flows is through primary surveys carried out by different private organisations and published in various study papers etc. The technique of such study also keeps varying and hence there are only estimates of informal trade available with the private organisations.

(c) The Government is keen to improve bilateral trade relation with Pakistan and setting up of the Joint Study Group (JSG) at the level of Commerce Secretaries of both the countries was a step in that direction. This JSG had had its first meeting on February 22-23, 2005 at New Delhi where both sides had detailed discussion on promotion of trade and economic cooperation for the mutual benefit.

Trade deficit

1544. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that trade deficit increased during April-December in 2004-05 as imports rose by 335 per cent during the period;